

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

SCOTT WALKER . COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE For more information, please contact: Linda Cieslik Ph. D. Program Coordinator for Community Health 414 289-6633 February 15, 2006

National Health Care in Aging Award to Local Minority Health Partnership

MILWAUKEE - Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker congratulates the Milwaukee County Department on Aging for the announcement that the American Society on Aging, in collaboration with Pfizer Inc, has named the WOLF program partnership at the Indian Council of the Elderly and the Gerald L. Ignace Indian Health Center, as a recipient of the 2006 Healthcare and Aging Awards.

"This award further demonstrates that our Department of Aging is making a difference in the lives of all segments of our elder population," said Walker.

The award will be conferred at the '06 Joint Conference of The National Council on the Aging and the American Society on Aging to be held in Anaheim, California, March 16-19.

WOLF stands for Work Out – Low Fat. The program was part of a two-year study conducted by the Department on Aging and the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee to examine the effectiveness of programs aimed at promoting healthy lifestyle changes in underserved populations of minority elders.

Designed to serve Milwaukee County's intertribal elders, WOLF includes improved access to nutrition education and fitness activities, combined with increased knowledge/awareness skills for improved nutrition, weight loss, and physical fitness. WOLF empowers elders by educating, motivating and supporting their efforts to take charge of their health.

The program and research was funded through grants from the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services (prevention grants and minority health mini grant programs) and the Assurant Foundation's health grant programs. Additional support came from partnerships with the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee, College of Health Sciences and Covenant Healthcare.

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